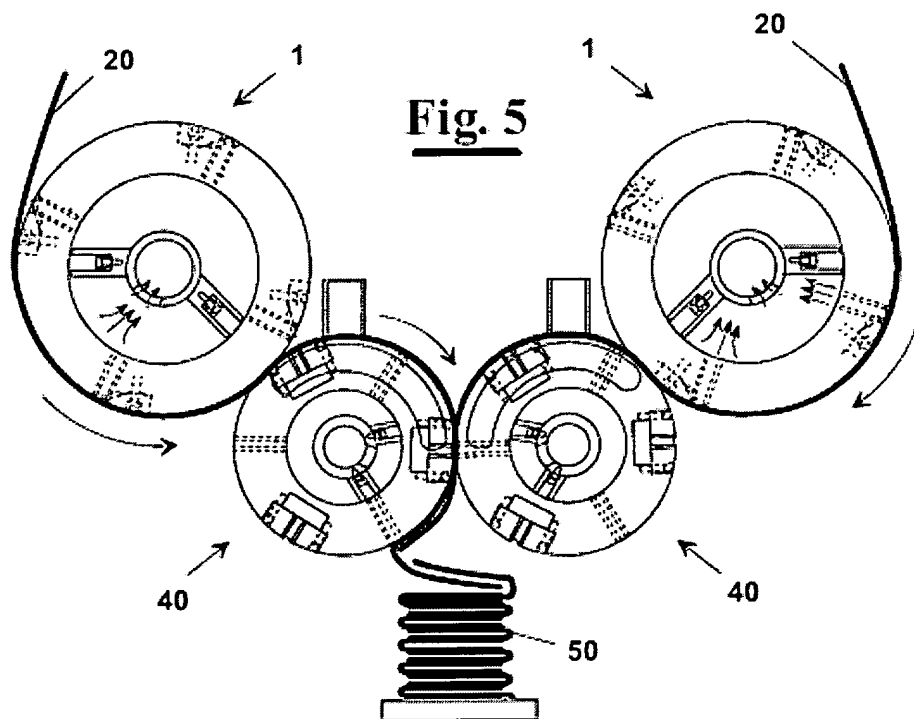


Remarks/Arguments

Rejection of Claim 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejected Claims 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 1,832,974 (Farnsworth) in view of United States Patent No. 1,120,432 (Atkins) and United States Patent No. 3,037,557 (Faeber et al.).

One example of a paper converting machine according to Claim 16 is embodied by the machine shown in Figure 5, reproduced below:



The kinds of machines claimed by the current invention have very high production rates and very precisely have to capture an end of the sheets, in order to drag them to an exchanging

point between two rollers, or to release the end at a determined point. That is, they need to precisely pull an end of a web or sheet of paper over a pre-determined and specific angle.

Farnsworth was published 80 years ago and does not relate to a machine according to the invention. Farnsworth expressly applies the suction roll to a Fourdrinier machine, which is completely different from a rewinding, winding or interfolding machine.

Moreover, Farnsworth does not provide suction holes that capture the end of a sheet or a web of paper and drag the end for a determined angle.

Atkins teaches a machine for suction of excess water in a paper making machine that has a longitudinal bar with a plurality of holes and slides against the inner surface of the tubular rotating roller.

Not only Atkins discloses a completely different solution for water suction, as discussed in the previous replies on file, but also the machine is of a completely different field.

Faeber et al. provides a rotary vacuum cylinder that solves a different problem: to apply tension in a continuous paper web, such as in printing or milling or laminating paper, that generates a very small amount of heat (see column 1 lines 30-35).

The roller of Faeber et al. leaves an uncovered portion of roller between two chambers. This portion is useful for cooling the sealing strips and the sealing frames.

A person with ordinary skill in the art cannot simply modify Farnsworth in view of Atkins and Faeber et al., in order to arrive at the current invention as claimed. Extensive modification, not found in the prior art would need to be completed to arrange the machine in Farnsworth in order to capture a sheet or web end. Furthermore, extensive adaptation would have to be done to convert the any of the machines taught in Farnsworth, Arkins, or Faeber et al. to arrive at a rewinding, winding or interfolding machine for sheets of paper.

Claims 17 has been withdrawn, rendering the rejection of that claim moot.

Rejection of Claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejected Claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farnsworth in view of Atkins, Faerber et al., and paragraphs [0003] – [0008] of the current application. Applicant has withdrawn Claim 18, rendering the rejection of that claim moot.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, which action is courteously requested. The Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney if such contact will facilitate an efficient examination and allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kurt R. Denniston", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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